IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Patent Application No. 10/828,540

Confirmation No. 3892

Applicant: FUJIMOTO et al.

Filed: April 21, 2004

TC/AU: 2877

Examiner: L. Lauchman

Docket No.: 403048

Customer No.: 23548

Commissioner for Patents U.S. Patent and Trademark Office Randolph Building 401 Dulany Street Alexandria, VA 22314

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98, the references listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 and/or Substitute Form PTO-1449 ("Form 1449") are submitted for consideration by the Examiner in the examination of the above-identified patent application.

The full consideration of the references in their entirety by the Examiner is respectfully requested and encouraged. Also, it is respectfully requested that the references be entered into the record of the present application and that the Examiner initial the appropriate area on the enclosed Form 1449, thereby indicating the Examiner's consideration of each of the references.

The submission of the references listed on the Form 1449 is for the purpose of providing a complete record and is not a concession that the references listed thereon are prior art to the invention claimed in the patent application. The right is expressly reserved to establish an invention date earlier than the above-identified filing date in order to remove any reference submitted herewith as prior art should it be deemed appropriate to do so.

Further, the submission of the references is not to be taken as a concession that any reference represents art that is relevant or analogous to the claimed invention. Accordingly, the right to argue that any reference is not properly within the scope of prior art relevant to an examination of the claims in the above-identified application is also expressly reserved.

The In	nformation Disclosure Statement is being filed:		
	within any one of the following time periods: (a) within three months of date of a national application other than a continued prosecution application 37 CFR 1.53(d); (b) within three months of the date of entry of the national set forth in 37 CFR 1.491 of an international application; (c) before the major of a first Office Action on the merits; or (d) before the mailing of a first Office he filing of a request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114	on under al stage as ailing date ffice Action	
after (a), (b), (c) or (d) above, but before the mailing date of a final action 37 CFR 1.113, a Notice of Allowance under 37 CFR 1.311, or an action to otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and includes <i>one</i> of:			
	the Statement under 37 CFR 1.97(e) (see "Statement under 37 CFF below).	t 1.97(e)"	
	or		
	the fee of \$180 set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p) (see "Fees" below).		
	after the mailing date of a final action under 37 CFR 1.113 or a Notice of Allowance under 37 CFR 1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and on or before payment of the issue fee, and includes the Statement under 37 CFR 1.97(e) (see "Statement under 37 CFR 1.97(e)" below), and the fee of \$180 as set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p) (see "Fees" below).		
	after the mailing date of a Notice of Allowance under 37 CFR 1.311, and payment of the issue fee, and within thirty days of receiving each item of contained in the Information Disclosure Statement, and includes the Stater 37 CFR 1.704(d) (see "Statement under 37 CFR 1.704(d)" below), and the \$180 as set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p) (see "Fees" below). NOTE: This is for origapplications except applications for a design patent, filed on or after May 29, 2000, where containing only an Information Disclosure Statement in compliance with 37 CFR 1.97 and being filed.	information ment under fee of ginal ein a paper	
Copie	s of the References		
	Copies of all of the references listed on the enclosed Form 1449 are enclosed herewith.	ed	
	Copies of U.S. patents and patent applications that are listed on the accomporm 1449 are not enclosed herewith. Copies of other references identifie accompanying Form 1449 are enclosed herewith.		
	For each reference not in the English language, attached is an English transconcise explanation of relevance, an English-language equivalent/patent, a English-language abstract, or an English-language version of the search re	n	

	action by a foreign degree of relevance	action by a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application indicating the degree of relevance found by the foreign office pursuant to 37 CFR 1.98(a)(3).				
	A copy of the forei	A copy of the foreign search report is enclosed herewith.				
	The references listed on the enclosed Form 1449 were previously identified in the parent application(s) of the present application, and copies of the references were furnished at that time. Accordingly, additional copies of the references are not submitted herewith, so as not to burden the file with duplicate copies of references. The Examiner is respectfully requested to carefully review the references in accordance with the requirements set out in the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure. In accordance with 37 CFR 1.98(d), the details of the parent application(s) relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 USC 120 in which copies of the references were previously furnished are set out below:					
	U.S. APPLICATIONS		STATUS (check one)			
	U.S. APPLICATIONS	U.S. FILING DATE	PATENTED	PENDING	ABANDONED	
1.						
2. 3.	·					
	The undersigned hereby states that each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign patent application not more than three months prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement.					
	The undersigned hereby states that no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign patent application, and, to the knowledge of the undersigned after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement.					
Stat	ement under 37 CFR	1.704(d)				
	Information Disclos office in a counterp any individual design	The undersigned hereby states that each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application and that this communication was not received by any individual designated in 37 CFR 1.56(c) more than thirty days prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement.				

Fees				
	No fee is owed by the applicant(s). Charge Deposit Account No. 12-1216 in the amount of \$180.00 (37 CFR 1.17(p)). (A duplicate copy of this communication is enclosed for that purpose, unless submitted via EFS-Web.)			
Autho	rization to Charge Additional Fees			
\boxtimes	If any additional fees are owed in connection with this communication, please charge Deposit Account No. 12-1216. (A duplicate copy of this communication is enclosed for that purpose, unless submitted via EFS-Web.)			
Instru	ctions as to Overpayment			
\square	Credit Account No. 12-1216. Refund			
	Respectfully submitted,			
Date:	Jeffrey A. Wyand, Rog. No. 29,458 LEYDIG, VOIT & MAYER 700 Thirteenth Street, N.W., Suite 300 Washington, DC 20005-3960 (202) 737-6770 (telephone) (202) 737-6776 (facsimile)			
JAW:v	es			

IDS (Revised 2007 06 21)